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S-E-C-R-E-T CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

East Germany

DATE DISTR.

24 March 1955

SUBJECT

SED Comment on Volkskammer Election

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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he edgetten for the Pan SED quarters stated that the SED was well aware that this form of election was a provocation of the population and was bound to after the election. The party took upon itself have r to gain the acclaim of the USSR. The SED my raconciliatory gestures and to rule more r the resistance which it had engendered. It the stabilization Five-Year Plan. had received directives from the Soviet tendencies in Western German 1

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- 2. The differences between the tactics of the SED leadership and the concession tactics employed by the Suviet leadership have widened, probably because of recurrent fears by the high-ranking SED functionaries that they may be sacrificed in the event of greater readiness for concessions by the USSR. There appears to be no concrete tactical SED plan for the reunification of Germany.
- 3. Asked if it would not have been more effective if a limited number of negative votes had been admitted in the election, a high-ranking SED functionary answered that if they had admitted 20 or 30 percent of opposition votes, there would have been evidence of a substantial opposition in East Germany and possibly the necessity of admitting an opposition party in parliament. This answer shows the attitude of the SED toward free elections suggested by Molotov.
- 4. The last-minute preparation for the of election proves that Geneva as well as 🕇 EDC failed to give the SED leadership added sel they became less noon of the Paris

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